

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 09688 161413Z

47

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
----- 054332

O P 161312Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6409

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MANAMA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T AMMAN 9688

EXDIS

DAMASCUS FOR ATHERTON FROM CHARGE

MANAMA AND DHAHRAN FOR AMBASSADOR PICKERING

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (ATHERTON, ALFRED L.)

SUBJECT: ATHERTON/GODLEY MEETING

REF: LONDON 19276

1. DURING MEETING WITH KING HUSSEIN ON DEC 16
I INFORMED KING OF ATHERTON-GODLEY MEETING IN
AMMAN ON DEC 18 AND THANKED KING FOR GOJ'S
COOPERATION IN THAT MATTER.

2. KING SAID HE WAS GLAD TO HELP OUT AND CONTINUED
HE HOPED POSSIBLY TO SEE AMBASSADOR GODLEY DURING
HIS VISIT HERE. HE HOWEVER TOOK INITIATIVE TO STATE
THAT HE HOPED THERE "WOULD NOT BE TOO MUCH PUBLICITY"
CONCERNING THE ATHERTON-GODLEY MEETING (SAME POINT
EARLIER MADE BY PRIME MINISTER RIFAI). I SAID PER

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PARA 2 REFTEL THAT USG WOULD NOT BE ISSUING ANY ANNOUNCEMENT

ON GODLEY TRIP OR HIGHLIGHTING IT, SINCE I HAD
INFORMED USG OF PM'S DESIRE THAT PUBLICITY BE HELD
DOWN.

3. COMMENT: SINCE BOTH KING HUSSEIN AND PM RIFAI
HAVE BOTH NOW REQUESTED WE KEEP PUBLICITY LOW ON
ATHERTON-GODLEY MEETING, I HOPE WE CAN ADHERE TO
THEIR CONDITIONS. BELIEVE IT PARTICULARLY
IMPORTANT THAT WE ISSUE NO STATEMENT AND ALSO THAT
WE TAKE CARE NOT TO ALLOW WORD TO LEAK OUT ABOUT
MEETING BEFORE IT OCCURS. WE AND JORDANIANS ARE
TREATING VISIT AS HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL AND GOJ ASSURES
ME JORDANIAN PRESS WILL NOT RPT NOT REPORT IT
EVEN IF THEY GET WIND OF GODLEY PRESENCE HERE.

4. ACCORDINGLY, REQUEST ADDRESSEES CONTINUE TO TREAT
MEETING AS CONFIDENTIAL/EXDIS.

5. DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS USDEL SECRETARY.
SUDDARTH

NOTE BY OC/T: AMMAN 9688 NOT PASSED USDEL SECRETARY.

SECRET

NNN

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